

COMMENT SUMMARY MIAMI BRIDGE PUBLIC MEETING

January 8 & 10, 2008

The Missouri Department of Transportation held two public meetings to provide information and answer questions regarding the proposed project to improve the Historic Miami Bridge. The proposed project has three options the participants could choose when offering their comments about the project. The options are as follows:

- A. No Build
- B. Rehab Existing Bridge
- C. Partial Replacement

The first meeting was held on Tuesday, January 8 at the Miami School. 36 members of the public visited the meeting, reviewed the displays and asked questions from MoDOT representatives. The second meeting was held on Thursday, January 10 at the Brunswick R-II School. 37 members of the public attended this meeting.

After discussions the participants were invited to offer written or verbal comments about their preferred choice from the options provided. Several participants completed the comment form while at the meetings and several more elected to take the forms and mail their comments to MoDOT.

Comments were accepted at the MoDOT District 2 office through January 20. Of the comments received, several choosing 2 options on the same comment form, 94% supported the Partial Replacement; 9% supported the Rehabilitation of the Existing Bridge with no comments received in support of the No Build option.

The comments reflected the publics understanding for the need to perform the partial replacement but acknowledged the hardship they would experience from the extensive detour caused by the bridge closure. Several comments included requests for alternate transportation of either a ferry or shuttle service. In conversations conducted at the meetings between participants and MoDOT representatives, reliability was preferred over convenience. The MoDOT representatives explained that a ferry service would be less reliable because the fluctuating water levels of the river and surface conditions would, at times, make a ferry service impossible. It was apparent the shuttle service would best address the concerns of those who attended the public meetings.

Some comments requested MoDOT evaluate an intersection at the south side of the bridge on the west bank. The comments indicated a possible sight distance issue at this location. Further investigation indicated no accident reports have been documented at this location and this location is outside the scope of the project. However, further investigation by the Area Engineer will determine if there is a sight distance issue that our maintenance crew can address. One comment also included a request to build up the north side of the bridge on Highway 41; no further explanation was given on the comment form as to why a build up was needed.